OST CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

POB 5007
PINE RIDGE, SD 57770
605-867-5172

Ellen Wheatley
Office of Child Care Director
Mary E. Switzer Building
330 C. St. SW 4502
Washington, DC 20201

The following plan is submitted on behalf of the Oglala Sioux Tribe Child Care and Development CCDF for the planned use of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). The lead agency is the Oglala Sioux Tribe hereinafter referred to interchangeably as "we" and "OSTCCDP"

Direct Child Care Services (subsidies)
- The OSTCCDP will provide subsidies for families that meet the qualifications for service under the COVID Emergency policy and procedures manual of the OSTCCDP. Eligibility is based on the criteria that each child is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe or an enrolled member of a Federally recognized Tribe and living within the boundaries of the Pine Ridge Reservation. Also, each parent must meet the criteria for eligible activity.
- The OSTCCDP will provide subsidies for eligible families that meet the definition of "essential worker" as cited in the OSTCCDP COVID Emergency Policy. We will use the CRRSA to pay co-payments for employees that meet the definition of essential employee.
- We will provide a consumer education employee to ensure that the information is widely made available to the public that may qualify for our child care services.
- We will be reviewing the needs throughout the year and making adjustments as needed.

Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices
- We will prepare and implement a virus mitigation policy that will support the center based and home based care of children on the OSTCCDP. The staff for this action has not yet been hired at the time of this submission.
- We will provide infrared thermometers to each provider and offer training on the CDC guidelines for mitigating the spread of COVID.
- We will provide COVID tests upon request to OSTCCDP participants.
- We will provide COVID tests to staff as per COVID Emergency policy.
- We will be reviewing the needs throughout the year and making adjustments as needed.

Grants or Assistance (other than subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

- We will offer an incentive to new providers during the COVID Emergency to attract new providers for employees as they return to in person work environments.
- We will provide assistance to Providers for fixed costs associated with the increase in need for care.
- We will provide payments to providers based on enrollment as opposed to attendance as written in the COVID Emergency policy.
- We will offer providers the opportunity to complete virtual home inspections and virtual training and give support through internet access and computer access.
- We will offer grants to child care providers to make enhancements to their services based on criteria described in the COVID Emergency policy.
- We will pay 100% of the subsidy to providers that are caring for children of essential workers as defined in the COVID Emergency policy.
- We will offer ZOOM assistance and other training to providers that are not familiar with the use of technology.
- We will be reviewing the needs throughout the year and making adjustments as needed.

Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic
- We will offer supplies and training to providers that are new to the OSTCCDP services.
- We will offer assistance to new providers to ensure health and safety compliance with the OSTCCDP Policy and Procedures Manual.
- We will provide assistance and guidance on the process to becoming an active provider.
- We will be reviewing the needs throughout the year and making adjustments as needed.

Other
- In order to comply with CDC recommendation to stay 6 feet apart, we will be enhancing the outdoor space into additional usable space for home providers as well as Centers.
- We will be reviewing the needs throughout the year and making adjustments as needed.

This plan has been prepared and submitted by:

/s/

Frances Big Crow,
Oglala Sioux CCDF Director